

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A system for managing data units stored in a hard disk storage device, the system comprising:
 - receiving means for receiving a new data unit to be stored in the storage device;
 - monitoring means for monitoring the status of the storage device, and for generating an indication of whether there is enough free space in the storage device to store the new data unit;
 - weighting means for, when the monitoring means indicates that there is not enough space in the storage device to store the new data, weighting data units stored in the storage unit according to a predetermined weighting system; and
 - erasure means for deleting data units in order of weights until there is enough free space in the storage device to accommodate the new data unit.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the weighting system weights the data units based on priority and age.
3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the weighting system weights the data units in the order of high priority, new data; high priority, old data; low priority, new data; low priority, old data in terms of desirability to retain.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the weighting system weights the data units based on priority, subject matter and age.
5. (Previously Presented) A method for managing data units stored in a long term storage device, the method comprising:
 - receiving a new data unit to be stored in the storage device;
 - monitoring the status of the storage device, and for generating an indication of whether there is enough free space in the storage device to store the new data unit;

when there is not enough space in the storage device to store the new data, weighting data units stored in the storage unit according to a predetermined weighting system, the weighting system weighting the data units in the order of high priority, new data; high priority, old data; low priority, new data; low priority, old data in terms of desirability to retain; and deleting data units in order of weights until there is enough free space in the storage device to accommodate the new data unit.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the weighting system weights the data units based on priority, subject matter and age.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the predetermined weighting system weights the data units based on priority, subject matter and age.
8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the weighting means references a data table and wherein the data table includes at least one weight value related to at least one data unit.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of weighting data units includes the step of generating at least one weight value to be stated in a weight data table.